

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 PC-04 OMB-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01

NIC-01 MC-02 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /138 W
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P R 072005Z AUG 73

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI PINT PINS MILI

SUBJ: WORKER'S DEATH PROMPTS CRITICISM OF MILITARY

REF: SANTIAGO 3493

1. SUMMARY: DEATH OF PUNTA ARENAS WORKER IN ARMS SEARCH
HAS UNLEASHED STRONGEST ANTI-MILITARY STATEMENTS TO DATE FROM
PS PARLIAMENTARIANS AND MIR. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING ARMS SEARCH AUG 4 CONDUCTED BY ELEMENTS OF THREE
SERVICES AND CARABINEROS IN PUNTA ARENAS TEXTILE FACTORY,
WORKER MANUEL GONZALES BUSTAMANTE WAS SHOT WHEN, ACCORDING
TO MILITARY VERSION, HE REFUSED TO OBEY ORDER TO HALT. GONZALES
SUBSEQUENTLY DIED FROM GUNSHOT WOUNDS.

3. INCIDENT HAS SERVED TO UNLEASH TORRENT OF UP AND MIR
CRITICISM UPON MEGALLANES ZONE'S COMMANDING GENERAL,
MANUEL TORRES DE LA CRUZ, OTHER OFFICERS AND MILITARY'S
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ENFORCEMENT OF ARMS CONTROL LAW. PS PARLIAMENTARIANS

LED BY MARIO PALESTRO ISSUED STATEMENT AUG 6 TERMING TORRES DE LA CRUZ A "SATRAP," AND "A CAESAR WITHOUT A CROWN." STATEMENT SUPPORTED MAGALLANES PROVINCIAL CUT CALL FOR A PROTEST STRIKE, AND DEMANDED GENERAL'S RESIGNATION AND REFORMS OF ARMS CONTROL LAW WHICHIT CLAIMS HAS DEVELOPED INTO A NEW "CURSED LAW" (LEY MALDITA) AIMED SOLELY AGAINST WORKERS.

4. IN SEPARATE, LESS INFLAMMATORY, DECLARATION SOCIALIST PARTY CRITICIZED INDISCRIMINATE AND VIOLENT SEARCHES AIMED AGAINST WORKERS. STATEMENT CONTRASTED WITH THESE SEARCHES ALLEGED "SURPRISING PASSIVITY" IN FACE OF REACTIONARIES ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SEDITION AND SABOTAGE. PS DID NOT SPECIFICALLY ATTACKE MILITARY AND, IN FACT, SAVED GREATEST VOLLEYS FOR MERCURIO CHAIN ARTICLES ALLEGEDLY PREJUDICIAL TO ARMED FORCES' REPUTATION. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED AS "INCREDIBLE AND UNACCEPTABLE" WAS AUG 4 SEGUNDA PIECE ARGUING THT ALLENDE MUST NAME MILITARY MEN TO CABINET, BUT ONLY THOSE WHO REPRESENT INSTITUTIONAL POINT OF VIEW AND NOT "CERTAIN HIGH OFFICIALS WHO MAY NOT BE REPRESENTATIVE." STATEMENT ISSUED BY NATIONAL CUT LEADERSHIP FOLLOWS GENERALLY ALONG "WHY US AND NOT THEM" ARMS CONTROL LINE OF PS STATEMENT.

5. EVEN MORE OUTSPOKEN AND VIRULENT THAN PS PARLIAMENTARIANS' DOCUMENT WAS ONE ISSUED BY MIR, WHICH INTRODUCES FOR FIRST TIME IN CHILEAN CONTEXT CONCEPT OF THEMILITARY AS "GORILLA." STATEMENT ATTACKS TORRESDE LA CRUZ AND OTHER SPECIFICALLY NAMED MILITARY MEN AS "REACTIONARY," "GOLPISTA" AND GORILLA" HIGH OFFICIALS "WHO OPERATE AS AN ARMY OF OCCUPATION IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY." STATEMENT SAYS THAT ONLY "GUARANTEE" MILITARY ENTRANCE INTO CABINET WOULD PROVIDE WOULD BE "UNCONDITIONAL DEFENSE OF THE INTERESTS OF THE UPPER CLASSES." MIR STATEMENT CALLS ON WORKERS TO MOBILIZE AND USE THIS COMING THURSDAY'S CUT DEMONSTRATION (SEPTEL) AS OPPORTUNITY TO CALL FOR IMMEDIATE FIRING OF TORRES AND REPEAL OF ARMS CONTROL LAW.

6. ANTEDATING MIR STATEMENT WAS RADIO ADDRESS GIVEN OVER WEEKEND BY MIR'S EDGARDO ENRIQUEZ, IN WHICH ATTACK AGAINST "GOLPISTA" ELEMENTS OF ARMED FORCES AND PRESIDENTIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTEMPTS TO DIALOGUE WITH PDC ALSO MADE. ENRIQUEZ ARGUED THAT NATION'S CURRENT SITUATION IS PRODUCT OF "VACILLATORS AND REFORMISTS" AND CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED BY A MASSIVE "POPULAR AND REVOLUTIONARY COUNTER-OFFENSIVE." ENRIQUEZ CLAIMED THAT CHILE IS IN A "PREREVOLUTIONARY STATE" WHICH NOT DEPENDENT ON ACTIONS OF ANY POLITICAL PARTY, AND THAT GIVEN NEW CONDITIONS MIR WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT AS "THE WORKER OPPOSITION TO THE GOVT." MIR THUS TACITLY ACKNOWLEDGES

ARGUMENT MADE BY PRES ALLENDE IN HIS JULY 25 SPEECH
(SANTIAGO 3326) THAT ULTRALEFTISTS SHOULD NOW BE CONSIDERED
AS PART OF THE OPPOSITION.

7. TO DATE GOVT HAS NOT ISSUED STATEMENT ON PUNTA ARENAS
DEATH. MORNING PRESS INDICATES THAT MINAGR TOHA AND
MINJUSTICE INSUNZA WILL TRAVEL TO MAGALLANES TODAY TO
INVESTIGATE SITUATION THERE.

8. IN OTHER EVENTS CONCERNING MILITARY, COUNCIL OF SANTIAGO
ARMY GENERALS APPARENTLY MET AUG 6. PRES ALLENDE MET
WITH ARMY CINC PRATS TWICE DURING SAME DAY AND ONCE
WITH FACH GENERAL NICANOR DIAZ, CHIEF OF THE ARAYA
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE. MEANWHILE, SUPREME COURT SLAPPED
AT INVESTIGATIONS POLICE DIRECTOR JOIGNANT FOR HIS SATURDAY
PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH PUBLICIZED HIS VIEW OF THE ARAYA
CASE, CONTRARY TO THE SECRECY PROVISIONS IN FORCE DURING
SUMMARY STAGES OF INVESTIGATION.
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